

Maclean's

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CANADA'S
NATIONAL
MAGAZINE

T O R O N T O

MARCH 1

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Beginning In
This Issue:

"SPY AGAINST THE REICH"

A Thrilling Secret Service
Novel by

MICHAEL ANNESLEY



Articles by

Douglas Reed

Beverley Baxter

Ronald McEachern

Kim Beattie



Cover: A natural color photograph
by Karsh.



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Mr. Power's Censor

MR. Minister Power told a Montreal audience that in some troubling schedule there advanced training places were being worked of four because they had been delays in the Canadian production of these places.

The report of the Minister's speech given this afternoon.

"Unfortunately, I don't know why it has not been possible to organize these places on schedule and I am not in a position to judge the delays," he said. But one exception of effort had been the Canadian war effort. "There are some manufacturers who are either doing better or doing less."

Mr. Power is not the minister in charge of supply, but he is a member of the Cabinet, and his conclusion that he doesn't know the reason for the delays is a disturbing one. It's time somebody knew.

His effort's statement concerning machine tools and parts plants is most significant, particularly in scheduled place manufacturers have been told to make precisely the same observation about departmental officials. "We do not know the real and true of the machine tools, but in the matter of other government business there have been considerable awards to people who were not equipped to handle them. Here some of our place contracts have been extended to suspension, as Mr. Power suggests? Or are the little notes due to departmental officials and incompetent ordering, as some place manufacturers have argued?"

We hope the parliamentary committee on war expenditures will get at the truth and that it will be a strong enough committee to place the blame where it belongs.

Public Wants the Truth

ON the day Mr. Power spoke so candidly in Montreal, Gaston O'Leary, of the Ottawa Journal, told a Toronto audience that the people of Canada were entitled to know as to the efficiency of our war effort. He said that Premier King had left a strong impression concerning the war training plan. He also pointed to the statement of Minister of Munitions, Mr. Power, that by the time we would be producing 300 planes a month, meaning that the February figure would be less than 150, and that after all our boasting, not a single Canadian-made Avro Arrow plane had yet been produced. Officers of the association addressed by Mr.

O'Leary inferred that the speech he would from the meeting. The Toronto-Globe and Mail said Mr. O'Leary was right.

Other newspapers—the Winnipeg Free Press, the Montreal Gazette, the Windsor Star, the Winnipeg Tribune, the Vancouver Star, the Vancouver Province, some of which have strongly supported the government up to now—have been expressing misgivings over the lack of plan and drive in Ottawa's direction of the Canadian war effort, particularly in the matter of production.

As this is written, there are reports and details that H. R. MacMillan, chairman of the War-time Requirements Board, is on the point of resigning because of dispute with Ottawa's new cabinet ministers. There are reports that Ralph Bell, head of machine production, is resigning because of the new action. Whatever the exact situation may be, there is no doubt that there have been sharp differences of opinion between men who have had wide business experience and men who are used to bureaucratic procedure.

From all this welter of confusion, there emerge two clear points. First, after three months the war industry is not getting adequate results in war production fields. Second, ministers have made statements which actual facts do not substantiate.

With regard to point Number One, we are now convinced that over that the country is a single production head who won't be just an adviser but an officer—a boss.

So far as point Number Two is concerned, either these ministers have failed to check information supplied to them, or else they have been suffering from an excess of political and.

If by any chance the case has been to stimulate industries for the sale of the war effort campaign, there was not assurance of public psychology. The public doesn't want to be misled. It wants the truth.

The "Unpatriotic" Press

REPORTING on the efforts of the King, the Ottawa correspondent of the *Financial Post* quotes a government official as stating, "The 'unpatriotic' attitude of the Canadian press for the government's troubles 'The press is the greatest single handicap to the war effort,'" and this official.

What nonsense!

The press of the country is infinitely more patriotic than the type of official who fears, shies, waffles and shuffles to hide a job he can't competently fill.

What is patriotism? False complacency? Or honest appraisal of facts made with the one truth that they may be quickly corrected and no effort was effort wasted?

It is reputable publications give any pay out of circulating news who accept weighty offers in such terms as that.

Take Maclean's for instance. Admitting that the money has been a good many things, we, citizens, will have to give the things that have been left behind. The real motive is it is so that every citizen of it pull into the nation's war effort. We know, and we will continue to wage, that every citizen put his or her back into that effort. At the same time, the people have the right to know that, for its part, the government will religiously eliminate incompetency, whether it be in private enterprise working for the state or in its own ranks, that it will change, at a word, and that under no circumstances will party considerations mean any definite disadvantage.

If the Prime Minister performs those duties, then there need not be any doubt concerning the full co-operation of all Canadians.

Results Must Be The Return

WHAT does the public, the public which is being urged to make every sacrifice for the war effort, think about all the time?

From a large number of readers' letters we select this one as being representative and yet moderate.

"I have just finished reading your editorial in the Feb. 1st issue (or told my Canadian should understand the War Department's) and must certainly agree with you. But...

"I am an ordinary, average citizen (working for a wholesale house who at my request are deducting money dollars monthly from my salary to purchase War Savings certificates). They should defend me too (which I am wholeheartedly capable).

"However, after reading editorial, newspaper articles, newspapers and especially after having numerous opinions from the lips of men I met and saw in the streets, I realize the wonder of our government in putting forth the proper effort in the proper manner to justify their position as our leaders. Personally I do not think so and believe so when I say that there are thousands who have the same opinion.

"I want to help and am willing to pay, but want to see results in return."

Macleans

Editorial: Jack Maclean at Toronto, Ont.
 Editor: Maclean at Toronto, Ont.
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 Editor: Maclean at Toronto, Ont.
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